

Recycle Review

Missouri State Recycling Program

2024 Highlights

New Equipment Enhances Efficiency

The Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) Health Lab enhanced its recycling efforts by installing a new baler, which became operational on Oct. 28, 2024. This initiative aims to manage the large volume of cardboard produced on-site, reduce waste, and avoid costs associated with waste management. The baler was strategically placed to optimize space and significantly lower expenses related to waste disposal.

The installation and training process for the on-site team was successfully completed with the help of DHSS team members Heather Moser and Ryan Bernard, along with members of the FMDC team. Their expertise ensured that staff can operate the baler efficiently and safely. This transition is crucial, as baled cardboard is more valuable than loose cardboard, allowing the Health Lab to reduce hauling costs, improve storage efficiency, and increase revenue from recycling.

This initiative not only enhances the Health Lab's operational efficiency, but also aligns with the broader sustainability goals of the Missouri State Recycling Program (MSRP). By incorporating the baler into its operations, the Health Lab demonstrates a commitment to environmentally responsible practices and cost-effective waste management, setting a positive example for state facilities.



Pictured left to right: Ryan Bernard, Rob Didriksen, and Heather Moser were thrilled to oversee the installation of the new baler.



Holiday Light Collection!

NOW - JANUARY 31, 2025

Visit genserv.oa.mo.gov/holiday-light-collection-locations for a complete list of drop-off locations.

Congratulations to Our 2024 Recycling Champions!

The MSRP recognizes state agencies and team members for outstanding contributions in the areas of waste reduction and recycling. The winners are nominated and voted on by a group of their peers that have a passion for the program and its mission to facilitate fiscally and environmentally responsible strategies for reuse and recycling of state property. The 2024 winners remind us that one person can make a difference and when we work together, we can do great things.

Individual Award: Amy Rowden

Amy Rowden, circuit manager with the Department of Social Services (DSS), exemplifies a strong commitment to environmental sustainability and the protection of sea turtles. Her daily actions reflect her passion for a cleaner planet, such as using reusable straws, bringing her own grocery bags, and opting



for digital formats to reduce paper waste. She has implemented a personal recycling system in her car for leftover food and actively avoids single-use plastics and Styrofoam when dining out. Amy also takes initiative by cleaning up trash from rivers and promoting awareness among her coworkers about their environmental impact.

In the workplace, she fosters eco-friendly practices by setting up recycling bins, providing reusable water bottles, and bringing washable dishes for team events. Amy encourages her colleagues to reconsider their use of disposable items, consistently advocating for the principles of reduce, reuse, and recycle. Her dedication has earned her the title of the “Recycling Queen” of the 30th circuit, inspiring everyone to make small changes that contribute to a larger positive impact.

Team Award: The MOREuse Movers

When the ITSD-DSS building was lost to a fire over 2.5 years ago, a creative solution emerged to refurnish the new office location at W. Truman Blvd. By coming together as a team, Kerry Kroll and Dana Ferguson (Attorney General's Office), Greg Luebbering (Missouri Supreme Court), Terry Stratman (Department of



Health & Senior Services), Randy Libbert (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education), and Mary Kay Holterman (ITSD-DSS) were able to secure an extensive list of used furniture through the MOREuse program, valued at over \$71,500. This collaboration saved the State of Missouri substantial costs and helped clear out storage spaces across agencies.

The contributions included 23 executive desks, seven credenzas, 40+ office chairs, conference tables, bookcases, shelving units,

and more; all vital pieces to support ITSD-DSS's approximately 90 team members. Special thanks to Jeff Cassmeyer, App Dev Manager, who personally transported a large conference room table that was too big for the moving company. This teamwork exemplifies resourcefulness and the power of multi-agency collaboration.

Welcome New Team Members!

The MSRP was proud to welcome two new team members in 2024! Bridget Eaton joined the team as the new program supervisor. Along with overseeing the MSRP, Bridget also oversees the MOREuse program and state-side Surplus Property. She's known for her knack for building strong teams and her passion for making sustainability fun and engaging. We've already witnessed the energy she brings to the program, and we can't wait to see what she has in store for 2025 as we work together to make Missouri a greener place.



Also new to the team this past year is Cameron Gehlert. Cameron brought a wealth of experience in environmental policy and a true passion for sustainability. With a master's in public administration and hands-on experience at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, we know he'll be able to use his expertise to keep pushing the MSRP forward.

— MSRP 2025 Goals —



Improve Website Accessibility



Strengthen Leadership and Team Involvement



Visit State Buildings for On-Site Support



Transform the Annual Report



Increase Recycling Efforts

For more details and updates, visit the [Missouri State Recycling Program website](https://recycling.oa.mo.gov).



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Recycling Program**

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We want to see your fun recycling photos! To have your photos featured in one of our future newsletters, please send them to recycling@oa.mo.gov.

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Earth Day in Missouri: Learning, Celebrating and Making a Difference

Earth Day was celebrated on April 22, and here in Missouri, we didn't miss a beat! Since it first began in 1970, Earth Day has been about protecting the planet and raising awareness about pollution and conservation. That very first celebration inspired 20 million Americans and helped lead to major environmental laws and the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency.

This year, Missouri kept the tradition alive with another great Earth Day event at the State Capitol in Jefferson City. Hosted by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the event brought together students, agencies, and organizations from all over the state. Everyone enjoyed hands-on activities and displays that made learning about the environment fun and memorable.



The Missouri State Recycling Program (MSRP) also joined in, sharing how recycling and waste reduction make a big impact. From promoting electronics recycling to highlighting creative ways to reuse materials, the team showed that every action, big or small, can help protect the planet.

With the help of several amazing volunteers, the MSRP hosted its 15th annual Zero Waste Challenge. Volunteers collected recyclables, compostables, and trash for sorting. The items were then weighed and documented to see how close they came to Zero Waste.

Compared to last year's event, **overall waste decreased by nearly 25%!**

While Earth Day may be over, the message is clear: every day is a good day to make eco-friendly choices. Let's keep the momentum going, because protecting the Earth is something we can all be proud to be part of, Missouri-style!



COLLECTION TOTALS

196

lbs. overall



40

lbs. of recyclables

76

lbs. of food waste

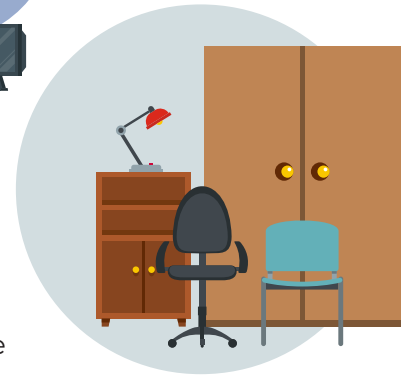


59%

of waste diverted from the landfill (up 8% from last year)

OA Spring Cleaning Tips

Guidelines for State Property Removal



Did you know that decluttering can alleviate stress and boost your sense of achievement? Whether you're simply tidying up for spring, renovating, or moving your office, the Office of Administration (OA) offers a variety of resources to ensure a smooth process.

With programs like the [Missouri State Agency for Surplus Property](#), managed by OA's Division of General Services, and [GovDeals](#), you can auction off unwanted items or share them with other State agencies for free through the [MOREuse](#) platform.

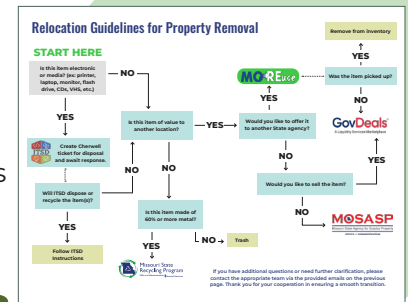
Do you have old electronics gathering dust? ITSD is ready to assist you in disposing of them in an environmentally friendly manner.

Additionally, the [Missouri State Recycling Program](#) provides services such as paper recycling, the collection of used and unused ink cartridges, and the provision of scrap dumpsters for recycling unusable metal items like filing cabinets and desks.

For anything that can't be reused, resold, or recycled, OA's Facilities Management, Design and Construction Division (FMDC) is available to handle the disposal.

For a comprehensive list of resources to help you declutter your space, be sure to check out OA's [Property Removal Guidelines](#).

Happy spring cleaning!



Thank You. Team Members!

The Missouri State Recycling Program (MSRP) wants to personally thank all of our State team members and your recycling efforts. In fact, team members, such as yourself are the reason why the MSRP is successful.

Whether you're recycling paper, cans, bottles, or flattening cardboard, your attention to recycling helps keep thousands of pounds of materials out of the landfill.



In case you missed it, click [here](#) to view the FY24 Annual Recycling Report and see how your efforts are helping drive the MSRP forward.



We want to see your fun recycling photos! To have your photos featured in one of our future newsletters, please send them to recycling@oa.mo.gov.



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2025 Recycling Champion Award Nominations

As summer comes to end, the Missouri State Recycling Program (MSRP) is excited to start preparing for this year's Recycling Champion Awards. The MSRP awards individuals and teams for their dedication to recycling in State government.

To nominate an individual or a team from your office, division, or department, please fill out the online [Recycling Champion Nomination Form](#) and remember to send photos of your recycling champions in action, no matter how incognito you have to be!



ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS WHEN NOMINATING:



- Does your nominee take on the recycling efforts for your office?
- Do they go above and beyond the duties to make sure sustainability is achieved?
- Are they a proud supporter of the MO-REuse program?
- Are they environmentally minded in reducing their office's eco footprint?

For questions about the nomination process, please email the MSRP at Recycling@oa.mo.gov. Feel free to share this information with others in your department and encourage them to [subscribe](#) so they can be informed about our statewide recycling efforts.

Visit the [MSRP website](#) to learn more about last year's Recycling Champions: Amy Rowden (Department of Social Services) and the MOREuse MOVERS team.



Amy Rowden
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



THE MOREUSE MOVERS

Kerry Kroll and Dana Ferguson (Attorney General's Office), Greg Luebbering (Supreme Court), Terry Stratman (DHSS), Randy Libbert (DESE), Mary Kay Holterman (ITSD-DSS), Jeff Cassmeyer (OA-ITSD)

Upcoming Projects

Elevator and Escalator Modernization

If you've visited the Harry S Truman State Office Building in Jefferson City recently, you may have noticed the ongoing elevator modernization. The Missouri Office of Administration's Division of Facilities Management, Design and Construction (OA-FMDC) is leading this massive project. Its goal is to replace the entire building's outdated elevator system.

Later this fall, OA-FMDC will also begin replacing the escalators between the second and third floors to further improve building accessibility.

The Missouri State Recycling Program (MSRP) is working with the FMDC to ensure the proper and

environmentally responsible recycling of the old elevators and escalators.

Stay tuned for more updates, where we will share the financial and environmental benefits of this recycling effort.



Save the date!

America Recycles Day

Friday, Nov. 14, 2025 * 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Harry S Truman State Office Building (fourth floor entrance)
301 W High Street, Jefferson City MO

Take the recycling pledge & learn about workplace recycling!

We want to see your fun recycling photos! To have your photos featured in one of our future newsletters, please send them to recycling@oa.mo.gov.



Division of General Services
Surplus and Recycling